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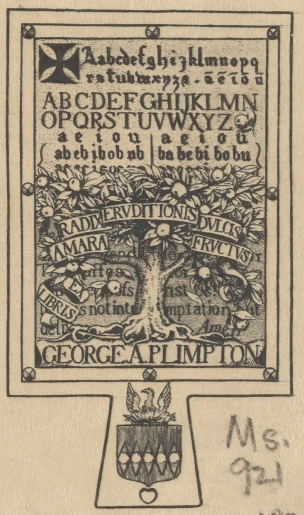

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from ++ 549

Note at O ¶ 464 It appears that in 1756, Captain Campbell, a very intelligent officer, was employed to find the Longitude after this mode, & as he was provided with this Mayer's tables, the Lunar party at the Board of prettied much from his report; but that Gentleman, like D. Halley, not having estimated the method higher than his conviction showed him it deserved, no more is heard of it in that quarter. However D. Maskelynes constitutional temperament, which seems to have predisposed him, ever against the evidence of his senses, to treat all objections to a favourite Theory as P did his victim, filled him in a singular manner for that rude or nothing, opposition which the University Mathematicians manifested towards the Mechanics.

Note at □ ¶ 456 A passage in the Journal of John & William Harrison, under date 13th October 1761 shows the consequences of this legislative oversight so remarkably that it would be doing injustice to the subject to omit it. to O ¶ 19

New paragraph at □ ¶ 460 At a Board of Longitude, May 30th 1765, at which more good humour than was usual prevailed, after business was over, a conversation ensued, which elicited these tokens of his Lordship's genius: for in connexion with the principle above, he was possessed of a curious secret in mechanics, which, as he said, "not a "workman in London could find out; for they would all get "wrong, if they attempted it." Here some one may interpose, to observe, that as such clever folks are commonly accessible flattery, a few words from the Inventor of the Time

skills in these matters

Minor

Note at X The Fellows of the Royal Society by their successive choice of Sir John Pringle, Sir Joseph Banks, Sir Humphrey Davy & his royal highness the Duke of Sussex, have amply re- deemed the unanswerable blunder they must have fallen into, when they fixed on the dis- creditable pretender brought forward in these pages.

amplified

[illegible] [illegible] brought to notice, & which might have had a mate- rial effect in [illegible] a trial to that quarter, is that

-keeper, complimentary to his Lordship's [illegible] his consummate knowledge & inventive powers, which the Royal Society X knew how to estimate, would soon have ca- [illegible] the utility of the [illegible] sentiment — "It gives me pleasure "to be praised by you, whom all men praise." & the "doubts & difficulties" would have been no further heard of, except at Coventry. But the Chairman, wholly unfitted for [illegible] any adroitness at such a manoeuvre; it would have seemed to him like putting on a fool's coat; his, was a straight forward course; he would not compromise his sincerity, though it might have been demonstrated, that the rugged path in which he toiled & cost himself would soon have become as smooth & level as a bowling green before him.

Note at □ 244 [illegible] ~~If the provision [illegible] in the Tem- keeper against the [illegible] contrary effects of heat & cold was not exactly adapted to all climates, it is obvious the Inventor would have consideration for the temperature to be expected in a voyage between Great Britain & the East Indies~~ a circumstance unknown in the time of John Harrison, but which recent observations in the Polar [illegible] extreme cold has a [illegible] tendency to accelerate the motion of the chro- nometers taken out.

from ++ §409 the rate of going of the Watch previous to embarkation, & imagining he had overlooked it be- fore. But those instructions are wholly silent on a point to which results of the first consequence here attach — nothing less than the refusal of the reward. Which leaves

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though the occupant of Flamstead Hill designed no such thing, a very dishonourable inference at the expense of the Lunar party — that party of which he became himself the expert a few years after. If so essential a substratum for the Veil, as thus described, was omitted in the instructions, by accident, if that is conceivable, & yet the error was not discovered till ~~[illegible]~~ after the complete success of the Timekeeper (according to the practical judges for whom it was intended) will gentlemen who are "neither for Paul, nor Apolos," say that any man of integrity could have sat easy under the consequences ~~[illegible]~~ of a blunder which cost the laborious Cardwale £20,000?

Note at ℘ 262 If the telescope being, at ~~[illegible]~~ seasons of leisure, in that hand destined to hold the sceptre, exposed to the contumely of brother astronomers, who were too much engrossed by their own accomplishments to be attracted by any merit, in a superior quarter indeed, but not set off by those capitals M. M. or L. L. D. how can their successors make out a case which the famed mendacific Monarch, who to this day supports the spheres on his shoulders, could have heard without shaking his curls, like Jupiter, and giving a nod tremendously significant of his despair from self-sufficient hallucinations which would thereafter expose them to a petrifying cross examination from Minos, Eacus, or Rhadamanthus?

The unworthy treatment which the beneficent head of the state, subsequently experienced from these his grateful subjects, who authorized the publication of a

Insert at oo below and by the tangible topic of pecuniary advances, had always led the claimant to construe the 12. of Queen Anne consonant to ~~what~~ afterwards appeared to be the opinion of the Crown Lawyers. — The pretence of attaching no importance to the repeated to ww 243

was held

Nobleman

-sition, yet nor the commonest sense of equity; for many a pothouse oracle would have allowed some consideration to the fact that the Commissioners themselves (we are justified in repeating it) had invariably interpreted, to oo above ~~the 12th of Queen Anne as the Claimant had done (& the Law Authorities indisputably.) This the King knew, for his interest he took in the subject had made him attentive to its progress, & he could not have had~~

trial categorically analized herewith; & to which the Astronomer Royal, with all the mathematical talents of Oxford & Cambridge to assist him is ~~[illegible]~~ confuting the experience of D^r. Halley, D. Bevis, & the learned Abbe De la Caille, had no reply forthcoming, is aggravated by the consideration that they never enquired for, nor one contemplated publishing the register of the going of the last made Timekeeper, under his Majesty's inspection, as an appendix to D^r. Maskelyne's report of the successful Watch. Had they done as much, it might have tended to extenuate the nefarious party motives, in ~~[illegible]~~ the spirit of which that trial was conceived & thrust forward. But having neglected this cheap expedient to do some justice ~~[illegible]~~ to the genius of John Harrison, & the merit of his illustrious Patron exclusively, we are constrained to apply to their conduct a phrase heretofore confined to some bad play, which ~~[illegible]~~ to be "damned beyond redemption."

Insert in the text at ++ 243 ~~[illegible]~~ was commented on, in the Preface, as likewise, the disgracefully oppressive conduct of the ~~[illegible]~~ who figures in these Memoirs as if he had not a drop of "the milk of ~~[illegible]~~ human kindness" in his compo- ~~[illegible]~~

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from ◇ 243 Although not acquainted with the origin of Lord Morton's ~~indefensible~~ conduct, the King would not

~~[illegible]~~ - functionaries were ex- -cused. ~~[illegible]~~

~~[illegible]~~

were bowed by age, & wasted himself of [illegible]

~~a Timekeeper to Harrison's Rep. It has been mentioned~~
~~that he was not now living, but it could not be expected~~
~~that the King would [illegible]~~ respect for a majority at
the Commission of Longitude, which ~~[illegible]~~ had so long been
implicitly ruled by so overbearing ~~[illegible]~~ a character; by whom in
fact, though not in form, all the powers of these public juris-
~~dictions were exercised.~~ The spirit of his oppression resolved,
after his ~~[illegible]~~ demise,
to have been fully transmitted to the predominant ~~[illegible]~~
party at the Board, or how could they with any regard
to decency, require that the Timekeeper, last completed, should
be tried by Dr. Maskelyne, & no one else? Figures to 243 □
~~though it should appear, he was to be by made to disprove the Victory on his Re-~~
~~port published by authority. It was indeed a brief way~~
~~of crabbing them & taking his revenge for having been~~
so roughly dealt with, but it exposed them to the unqualifi-
-ed contempt of this virtuous Prince — who was heard to say,
~~[illegible]~~ as if exterlocuting
with himself; "these people have been cruelly treated." Then
turning shortly towards the Applicant, he addressed him by
his surname in these remarkable & laconic terms — "By
"God, Harrison, I will see you righted." — An expression which

To □ & 243

Pamph. 1780 Mr. Short was the excellent friend who as-
-sisted him in embodying these details; for though he could
express himself with clearness by word of mouth, as the Gen-
-tlemen who received the explanation of the invention
found; yet (which is a very rare case) his manner, when he
took up a pen was altogether peculiar & uncouth. This he
would be shown, till his faculties ~~[illegible]~~
the assistance of his friends to remedy. New parag.h at ◇635

530 /

~~[illegible]~~

the result of the Treal, though not conversant with the subject,

to avoid upsetting

~~[illegible]~~

surprising

Note at ++ 253 This was Mr. Robert Atkinson, of Nutfield Chace, in Yorkshire, who, from the interest he took in [redacted], desired to know what was going on; & the letters having been preserved in the family, were presented to the Author some years ago. — Mr. Neale entitled his captivating work "The Romance of History" (avowedly as such) & there are passages in this narrative which strain belief, & might have brought the writer under the imputation of dabbling in the romance of regal biography, had not the discovery of these letters opportunely relieved him from this undesirable predicament. A caution in point may be recollected. Young Stanhope is advised by his Father [redacted] any thing which, though he might himself know it to be perfectly true, was too [redacted] to be credible without authentic support, & would expose his veracity to be questioned, which no man likes.

Pamphet □ 55 This blunder, which, if he had been of Irish manufacture, might have [redacted] passed for a good bull of that country, was [redacted] perfectly characteristic of Lord Morton's understanding; by whom the rules <u>to prevent any tampering with the Timekeeper</u> were produced ready prepared, at the Board in April 1765 to which the trial previously determined on by his Lordship & Dr. Maskelyne (the personal enemies of the Inventor, to wit) was submitted as a matter of form, rather than of necessity. What estimate can be made of the judgment, or of the <u>goodnature</u> of those present, when no person pointed out the ridicule these precautions involved? although it was the more obvious, because in Dr. Halley's plan, some years before [redacted], which all

of them

but the northern Pear

-man calendar. It leads to no improbability, if we sup-
-pose the Gentlemen of the Royal Society were now & then
~~imposed on~~ mystified by plausible quotations from their
President, which if

[illegible] was, [illegible] / or
they did no honour to their office) which was to send the
Timekeeper to sea six months on board a ship in the Downs:
the object being to communicate by signal with Dead Cas-
-tle, where the clock was kept, it is ordered "that the astro-
"-nomical clock should be locked up in the room where it
"stands, & the keys of the said room put in possession of
"some proper person, to be named by the Commissioners of
"Longitude, & by Mr. Harrison; & that no person should be
"allowed to take the time from the said clock by a watch,
"or otherwise." Here it is evident as much precaution was
thought necessary to prevent any unfair dealing with the clock,
as with the Timekeeper; & yet his Lordship, who certainly
desired to be thought as clever a fellow as any round the Cir-
-cle, had not an item of any such particular in his
plan. He would not insinuate he had but one piece of
learning, like Ephraim Jenkinson, in the Vicar of Wakefield,
[illegible] wish to mind that "astronomical jargon"
which an eminent Statesman, who was above affectation,
but found it necessary to [illegible] make something like a
flourish, tells his son, he got by heart from a master, when
he was to bring in his bill for the reformation of the Grego-
-[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
rian Kalendar, which, if nicely questioned, it would have been found he did
not understand himself: such at least is the safest con-
-clusion left for those who compare the specimens he has
given of his capacity, in common things, with his devotion
to the chair of Newton.

Note at ++ 548 It was, that if any tools were ~~[illegible]~~ necessary in con-structing the Timekeepers different from those used by clock & watchmakers, a number of workmen were to be im-mediately set on preparing such tools; ~~[illegible]~~ which being ready, two or three more Timekeepers were to be proceeded with; & these being completed, were to be tried "in such manner " as the Commissioners shall judge proper; so as to convince " them that the discovery made by Mr. Harrison is sufficient to " enable other workmen to make Watches of equal goodness." — It requires no argument to show that this way of explain-ing the invention would have called for an outlay, both of time & money, altogether excessive & quite foreign to the ~~[illegible]~~ whole intention of the framers ~~[illegible]~~ of this Act under which this Commission sat. ~~[illegible]~~

Note at △ 274 The ardour of Mr. Burke, to whom the descendants of the Petitioner seem greatly beholden, was not likely to fail him on a Theme which may be al-lowed to have been more than usually congenial to his cast of mind. It is the Author's persuasion, that had that Gentleman been debarred both politics & literature, and then asked whose fame he envied most, — he would immediately have answered — that of John Harrison.

Note at □ 272 This Gentleman's name occurs once or twice in the lists of the Commissioners, as Secretary to the Treasury; but as nothing further is known of him, & the reporters have not favoured us with his argument, if he had any, it casually brought to mind the quaint epi-taph in Joe Miller } Here lies the body of Daniel Jaul, Spital Fields Weaver, & That's all.

patrician,

February
since 1765, if it was taken only at 3 per cent

Harrison, with the concurrence, if not at the suggestion

insert in Text at ⊖

for the Aff[a]irs

exposition based

from O 307 desiring to hold the scales with fairness between the claimant & ~~the Crown~~ the community, reasoned thus, without hesitation, & being a better accomptant than the accused ~~he was~~ he observed, that the sum in question bore but a small proportion to the interest of the moiety obtained ~~by him~~ & much less still, if that of the whole reward was computed from August 1762 which subsequently the House of Commons in committee, ~~had~~ after hearing evidence, allowed he became ~~at~~ fully entitled to at that period: a □564 & the King believed it would have been paid then, had not the Board with such an infraction of justice refused him a check on the computations. — It appears further, that William ~~Chapman~~ of his Patron printed, for circulation among the Members of both Houses, brief extracts from □600 to show that the pecuniary encouragement by which the Commissioners were enabled to assist ingenuous men from £2.000 placed at their disposal for that purpose was always considered by the Legislature as wholly distinct from the premium provided for the successful candidate. — Thus situated, the injury he had received by the return to 277

Insert this paragraph at O 363 That the prevalent idea among mankind, which supposes Kings are surrounded with flatterers ever ~~ready~~ ready to magnify every indifferent action which would not be noticed in common life, is often wholly unfounded, at least in this country. The distinct & decided example we have given in these Memoirs will show. — To ~~the~~ upon the clearest facts in the case of his Father, we are enabled to add some particulars of George 4th equally unknown, but which the general voice would cer-

-tous incidents

(tho' separated by change of residence to distant parts of the king-
-dom) was

New ¶ para[2]

Men whose enlightened purpose it was, (partially to
bless) it their neighbours, or the community, if they
could, in various ways; if they had no specific calls
for their attention at home! — for it may be

by

This, white such evidence forc him out, The author felt dis-
-gusted at the idea that
he was making enemies, which few men like, if

-tuely desire should be rescued from oblivion — That they are so, was owing to the same concurrence of fortune which, sixty years after John Harrison's petition was laid before Parliament, disclosed the philanthropic & unwearied interest his Sovereign had taken in promoting him redress for the violation of the legislative pledge. To the circumstance of the Author having been in habits of intimacy with the persons introduced owing their being now brought forward as an appropriated addition, he thinks, to "A trait in the character of George 3rd back

3. "

at Δ 649 If we contemplate this Monarch as a private Gentleman, divested of the cares of state, & of the anxieties of a large family, but endowed with an ample fortune, would he not soon have found his place & days with the Norways & the Howards of that period? observed of those eminent philanthropists the Man of Zeal, Jonas Hanway, John Howard & Alderman Harrison of Leeds†, that they were either unmarried, or had no progeny, excepting W. Howard, whose Son was of weak intellects.

Minor Note at † John Harrison imagined himself connected blood with this patriotic character, such being the tradition of the family: but this affinity cannot be traced.

from Δ 571 — Though conscious of the rectitude of his motives in animadverting

his Abridgment was going to the press,

535 they can avoid it: when — just as

happening to look into the Rambler, a volume of which in the paper N° 180 drew his attention at once; he was satisfied that the freedom he had used amounted not to tenth part of the caustic bitterness involved in a quotation from Le Clerc, whose sentiments, Dr. Johnson apparently assimilates with his own, on the moral delinquencies of learned collegians. He hopes, therefore, the Gentlemen of Oxford & Cambridge, if they find aggrieved will "place the saddle on the right horse."

"A wealthy trader of good understanding, having
" the common ambition to breed his son a scholar, car-
" -ried him to a university, resolving to use his own
" judgment in the choice of a tutor. He had been taught,
" by whatever intelligence, the nearest way to the heart
" of an academic; & on his arrival entertained all
" who came about him with such profusion, that the
" professors were lured by the smell of his table from
" their books, & flocked round him with all the civilities
" of awkward complaisance. This eagerness answer-
" -ed the merchant's purpose; he gluttted them with
" delicacies, & softened them with caresses, till he pre-
" -vailed upon one after another to open his bosom, &
" make a discovery of his competitions, jealousies,
" & resentments. Having thus learned each man's
" character, partly from himself, & partly from his
" acquaintances, he resolved to find some other edu-
" -cation for his son, & went away convinced, that a
" scholastic life has no other tendency than to vitiate
" the morals, & contract the understanding."

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536

Note

J. [illegible] were partly natural & partly [illegible]

at △ 286

It is remarkable how extensive ~~this evil~~ ~~Art~~ a range this evil takes. W. Sharp, the surgeon & traveller, writing from Italy near a century ago, tells us that, at the age of fourteen, the principal employment of the Prince Royal of Naples, afterwards Ferdinand 4th was, playing puppets. If we may rely on a letter in "Spain by a young American," the faults of Ferdinand ~~were partly natural to him~~ the result of education. Instead of being trained up & instructed with the care necessary to fit him for the high station to which he was born, his youth was not only neglected, but even purposely perverted —— Godoy, whose views were of the most ambitious kind, took great pains to debase the character of the heir apparent. —— But these instances are not of so much curiosity as a circumstance brought forward at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries in November 1832. "Henry Ellis esq. Sec. communicated the draft of a letter to Queen Elizabeth, from Lord Paulett, her Majesty's Comptroller & Treasurer of the household, & afterwards Marquis of Winchester, written in the year 1571, & giving her Majesty a history of the debt under which she then laboured. He ascribes its origin to the extravagance of her father; stating, that on the death of Henry 7th it was discussed in the council whether the young king should be educated "in worldly wisdom," or in pleasures & amusements; when the sage counsellors, anxious to retain their places, decided upon the latter course, & thus laid the foundation of the debt, which was increased in the reign of Edward 6th, & on subsequent occasions

to O 537 ~~[illegible]~~

New ¶ paragraph at

Minor Note at * How happens it that the learned eccle-
siastics, & talented laymen, of the Romish persuasion, do
not popes on undisputed copy of a polemic treatise
rendered so remarkable by the sanction from the Pontifi-
-cal chair, & its consequences?

Note begins here

and (he might have added) troublesome enough in practice,
for to many officers it would be insupportably so; as the
reader may judge from the statement herewith, which, taking
"The British Mariners Guide" for a fair criterion, but not
having the Pamphlet by us, we insert from the Month-
-ly Review; and it may be regarded
as a curiosity for its contrast with

~~exceeded by its impolicy. It had the worst consequences~~
~~of taking his Lordship to have been a monarch, it had the worst~~
~~consequences common to such ill spirited Children. Henry, who~~
~~wanted a bridle more than spurs, became as headstrong & odious~~
~~a tyrant as ——— the Democracy of Athens.~~

0535 Some explanation would seem desirable to those whom it has sufficed to adopt what floats on the surface of history. According to which Henry, having an elder Brother, was designed for an ecclesiastic, & acquired great learning, which, at a subsequent period, enabled him to write against Luther in Latin. If it was agreed by Conscience, who so little deserved the name, to lead him into such a dissipated & voluptuous course, yet, judging by common experience, he must have recurred to his scholastic learning from time to time, or he could not have written that book, if its authenticity is unquestioned.

The selfishness imputed to the council could only be exceeded by its impolicy. It had the worst consequences common to such ill spirited children; & Henry, who wanted a bridle more than spurs, became as headstrong & odious a tyrant as ——— the Democracy of Athens.

Pamph ☐ § 33 ~~And he chose, he might have known~~
~~shews D^r Maskelyne's position, as it is in his pamphlet~~
~~The British Mariner's Guide." We extract it from the Monthly~~
~~Review, & note~~ the facility found in resorting to the Timekeeper. ——— "In the method here
" proposed, four observations are requisite to determine
" the longitude. The first is an altitude of the sun, or
" some bright star, for regulating a watch, by which the
" other observations are to be made. The second is

from □ Now
~~Second calculation. Rej~~, the nautical Timekeeper,
which the inventors antagonist Thos to △542

" the distance of the moon's enlightened limb from the
" sun or star. The third & fourth observations are, the
" the altitudes of the moon & the sun, or the star, from
" which the moon's distance is observed; to be taken by
" two observers assisting the person who takes the dis-
" -tance of the moon from the sun, or star, at the very
" instant, or, at the utmost, within a minute of, time he
" gives notice that he has completed his observation.
" At the same instant, or, at the utmost, within a quar
" -ter of a minute, & before the observers attempt to read off
" the degrees & minutes from their quadrants, somebody
" must note the hour minute, & quarter of a minute, of the
" watch regulated as above mentioned."

This scientific melo drama would require a rehearsal, like those or other boards: but granting that the officers of the Navy, from a first to a fourth or fifth rate, might be found at quarters, according to this discipline & that the mates of some East Indiaman mustered as de-cor a display as could be wished, yet the security promised is not nearer than twenty leagues from land to □

~~The accidentally identified with the complicated pos-~~
~~-ess is so great, that in the interior while the Doc~~
~~tor's own discoveries in the islands of Barbados (like those of the curious astronomer~~
~~-nitially noted, Mr Greek, an able & zealous astronomer~~
~~in the same ship with William Harrison, could get only~~
~~two lunar observations, which, by the way, cut him toes~~
~~-thers the extraordinary altogether, the main point, the que-~~
~~stion of practicability may be taken at least at a hundred~~
~~per cent in favour of the Brahmins. yet Dr Maskelyne the Astronomer~~

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seen them somewhere

proceeding

B. Thos

~~Regulation methods of observation might have been thought sufficient to entrap him, could common attention, much to alter that the Machines might be useful in discovering & introducing to Lunar Astronomers of the~~ from □542 a condescension so untoward ~~[illegible]~~ becomes the bitterest irony on the Lunar recreant, the proofs of whose superiority never were forthcoming; it was too much to "crisp reason's spite" & recalls the Doctor's exposure (through his own indiscretion) to Sir John Lindsay & other respectable Gentlemen at Barbados; which he leaves to be inferred rankled at the core of his material substance, & infused more gall into his ink than the mu-sician intended.— It cannot be too much condemned, that while the proofs are inaccessible (unless M. Croker has ~~not them "sealed from vulgar eyes"~~?) Dr. Maskelyne arro-gates a superiority for his adopted method without evi-dence, & presuming, as the vulgar often do, that mere as-sertion will be satisfactory in his own cause.

Without disparaging this Gentleman's pro-fessional eminence, he certainly injures himself by a ~~[illegible]~~ that inverts the order of things; and ~~[illegible]~~, unless the au-thority for publishing the trial was the sole act of Lord Morton, whose reasons were no more worth searching for than "two grains of wheat in a bushel of chaff," what can be thought of the Commissioners from Oxford & Cambridge? persons whom politeness supposes qualified to fathom the profound of science, as well as of the ~~[illegible]~~; not one of whom came forward to vindicate his sanction of the superiority assumed by his col-league over ~~[illegible]~~ horological Mechanics.

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~~to show [illegible] by that [illegible] to be exploded of the rules of [illegible] present any temptation with the Critick [illegible], that the Clash of the Critick [illegible] to be compared for clarity in the power of the Astronomer Bryant himself as necessary [illegible] candidate for the Patrimentary crown. The Note [illegible] Mrs Cotton~~

Minor Note at □ 543 The degraded taste, which gave a vogue to Peter Pindar, drew this sentiment from W. D'Israeli, in his ~~Genius of Poetry~~ Defence of Poetry.

Ere Shakespear's genius, Spencer's fancy fair,
While Folly bids her Dolott's scandal hair.
'Tis She that gives his malice wings to fly;
Nursing in natal dirt the infant lie,
Till grown more bold it flaunts about the Town,
The dirty Prostitute of half a crown.

—

see his advice

~~[illegible]~~

supported, as it was, by what? — by a total failure of the attestations indispensably necessary to give it any weight. — Several years ago it was becoming common for the burglars in London to set fire to some dwelling house or compting house, for an opportunity of plundering in the confusion. When detected, their examination before the magistrates led to the remark, that there were wretches, who, for the sake of some booty worth a few guineas, would not scruple to involve a whole neighbourhood in total ruin, attending the loss of lives. We shudder with horror at such an account: but [illegible] it behoves to recollect that philosophers infatuated [illegible] with a favourite theory, of extreme uncertainty in practice, are in danger of leading us to a similar result. So it was, [illegible] & the why & wherefore cannot be known till the consummation of all things, Nevile Maskelyne D. D. & Astronomer Royal, uniformly exhorts those concerned in navigating ships to distant & climes & hazardous shores to place their chief dependance for Lunar observations for the safety of themselves & their charge. — [illegible] he would not [illegible] was incompatible with the established order of the firmament & the elements; [illegible] for it often happens, if observations of this description can be got, yet the ship being in no danger of falling in with land, they are available no further than for the correction of casual errors in the watches on board. On the contrary, when the crew apprehend being

self-ended

that D^r. Kelley,

Master-Spirit in mathematical knowledge

nomenal Philosophers

Although

in soundings, this superior method is most commonly use-
-less; & for ever must remain so, unless the supreme
Being were to vouchsafe us to multiply our faculties four
-fold, like those of the planet Jupiter. The Note to end here

No apology seems necessary ~~to be thought of~~ to
the successors of those Collegians whom, by virtue of their
offices, the Legislature, in the last century, ~~made~~ vested
with the privilege of Commissioners of Longitude — whose
~~office~~ pertinacity seemed to require that one should rise
from the dead, before they would admit the superiority
of scientific chronometers to all the theories that ever
were, or ever will be, invented for Lunar demonstration
(for the reason just said.) Yet ~~if the Lunar Tables~~
~~had been~~ they might have had it flung in their faces,
that whom no modern astronomer had more nautical ex
-perience — who was certainly no ways inferior to Neville
~~Maskelyne~~, but without his sanguine temperament, was of
a totally opposite opinion to the Lunar ~~Tables~~ Master of Arts,
& could not endure ~~that~~ to have the instability of the one
method set off against the confidence you might place
in the other. With a glance at the complicated process for
obtaining that by the Moon which might be had more
accurately from a good Watch, without comparatively
any Trouble, he would have reminded of those ~~practical~~
~~-philosophical Indians~~, if they ~~were to be found~~ were
not retrograding to the century, when, like the logic of Tho
-mas Aquinas, every thing was valued for its difficulty more
than its use? Indignant at their pretences, he would have
them sitter for a Professor's chair at Laputa, who could authorize
such trumpery, as he would have deemed the preference in a

her Boat,

ruly

~~the pilot cutters in the mississippi~~

doubting people by the conviction that

-lusion; to say nothing of Newton, to whose sentiments they were directly opposed.

from △ ¶ 538 ~~depreciates~~ without producing a certificate, that it was in a fit state for the ~~[illegible]~~ scrutiny intended, had, in the voyage out, foretold the ship's approach to the several Islands in ~~[illegible]~~, including Barbadoes, with all the precision the seamen could desire. While D. Maskelyne ~~=~~ by the method opposed to mechanism, with Admiral Tyrell & his Officers to assist him, foretold nothing to the purpose. So that, under such circumstances, to affect to stand on higher ground, as the Astronomer Royal actually does, & to allow that Watches may be useful as an auxiliary to the method he practises; a concession which is thus demonstrated to be a contradiction in terms, could only excite the mirth of a Jack tar; with whatever gravity it might be heard by the ~~[illegible]~~ learned gownsmen in an Oxford, or a Cambridge, common room. Attorney Ante to □ 539

from ++ 543 ~~[illegible]~~

~~[illegible]~~

~~[illegible]~~

543 proved so palatable to that numerous class in society, called by Lord Chesterfield, make gossips; & soon found its way into Lady Tabby Touchup's drawing room & Sir Pontius Periwinkle's peripatetic repository, and — where Mr (equivocal) gentlemen, those who were not ashamed to in-

-vite him to their tables could say. return to ++475

[illegible]

avoided falling out of the frying pan into the fire, & rescued the imputation of hearing aloud that "a greater possibly finding the more you stir it, the more it will stink, he never apologized to

dog-cheap. And soon after, it is likely, in the ordinary course of his business, he could thrust on them some stuff from the Palace, impressed on to ++542

~~Peter Pindar adopted that ornamental dress in society, given~~
~~to by Lord Chesterfield under the appellation of make~~
~~Griffin. This, Mimicry, consisting in putting on Buck~~
~~skin, or in Lady Isabella, Tawdriness & wearing rouge, or at~~
~~in Porter Lawrence's perpetual repetitions, when~~
~~the occasion was [illegible]~~ from ++475 To show the utter recklessness of this man in what impeached his veracity, he got hold of it, as a good thing to turn the jeers on, that the British Embassador, at the court of Pekin, had duly conformed to the ceremony called Ko-tou. so degrading to European ideas & forthwith tossed up, in his doggerel Pindaric way, an invective against the absurd meanness of the compliance; not sparing, of course, the Government that appointed Lord Macartney, & so on. Had he not been in haste to show that "one fool makes many," he might, by waiting a few days, or perhaps a few hours, have ◻540 the shutters, his Muse, from his Parthia never bred." Yet, ~~he was apologized to~~ his readers for a blunder by which he was holding them

Note at ◇262 But though George 3d possessed that most useful, & often invaluable quality of self command, in as eminent degree, on important occasions, he did not constrain himself to a stoic demeanour in ordinary & trifling occurrences. — A friend of the Author chanced to be present at the following incident. — His Majesty (always an early riser) was one morning, about 7 o'clock engaged in driving a number of deer from one paddock to another, in Windsor great Park. Among the idlers that gathered along, & followed his motions, was Dick such a

appetizing

ill-timed

-ver from the Supplement to the Gentleman's Magazine. Part 1.st for that year]

one, a barber at Windsor, who was mightily officious in to drive the deer, but, as is often the case in an overacted part, doing a deal more harm than good; till at length, the King growing impatient at the efforts of Tonsor, made a stroke at him with his whip, to deter him: upon which the neighbours, who took up the affair as if by common consent, assured him he was knighted: & he was ever after called, Sir Richard: a distinction with which, however, he could not quarrel much, as it probably increased his custom.

Note at ◻ 369 In accordance with his Grace of Wellington's observation, & with the remarkable opinion of the learned individual just mentioned, we give the ensuing extract from the Address of the President, the Bishop of Salisbury, to the Royal Society of Literature, at their Anniversary Meeting, April 26th 1831. [Ed.

"Adverting to the loss which the Society had "sustained in the decease of its munificent founder "& patron, King George 4th, he took occasion to enu- "merate some of the more important services ren- "dered by the deceased Monarch to the cause of literature. "His Majesty's attention to the interests of Lite- "rature & sound learning, — an attention called forth "by the genuine bias of his cultivated taste & daily "accomplishments — was evinced as early as the "year 1796, by his donation of two gold & two silver "medals to the Scholars of Winchester; The former for "the best English composition, The latter for the encou- "ragement of eloquence.

Minor Note at ++ By the way, [redacted] although Lord Chesterfield's name is not associated with that of Mr. Burke on this subject, yet he discerned [redacted] afar the portentous signs in the horizon, & many years before, predicted to his Son, that, "before the 18th. century should be out, the trades "of king & priest would not be half so good as they were."

Note at △ It is much to be regretted, however, that the learned have been hitherto disappointed, in hoping to recover, from this source, the lost books of Livy.

"The King was a contributor to the building of
" St. David's College; & this benefit to the interests of
" Religion & Learning was subsequently augmented
" by some valuable endowments bestowed upon that
" Institution.
" That meritorious charity, the Literary Fund,
" has, at various times, largely partaken of the
" munificence of the late Sovereign.
" It was by his Majesty's order, that the work
" "De Doctrina Christiana," &c. discovered in the State
" Paper Office in 1823, & ascribed (though, in Lordship's
" opinion, erroneously) to Milton, was translated & published.
" In the same year, George 4th further merited the
" title of a Benefactor to Literature, by giving to the nation
" the valuable & extensive Library which had been collected
" by his Royal Father.
" One of the earliest proofs given by the King of his cul-
" -tivated taste & love of ancient learning, was shown in the Lit-
" -erary Mission to the Court of Naples, for the more rapid de-
" -velopement & Transcription of the Herculanean Manus-
" -cripts — a Mission equally honourable to the country
" from which it emanated, & the accomplished Prince who pro-
" -moted it, & successful, beyond what is generally known, in
" its results." to 0650

Note at ◇ 268 [redacted] "The interest
which the subject may excite makes it worth while to observe
that, in politics, William Harrison was strenuously op-
-posed to the American war; condemned the coalition
between Mr. Fox & Lord North; & deprecated the French
revolution in its early stages, though he could not, like
the gifted Edmund Burke, foresee all the consequences that
followed ++. These opinions on [redacted] by-gone subjects [redacted]

Minor Note at ☐. I was said in the Quarterly Review
[vol.] — It is not that men of genius have more Minor
peculiarities than other people, but [redacted]
results from their celebrity drawing more observa-
-tion on them. Yet Shenstone seems to have thought
differently on the subject; for he remarks that — ☐
"an acquaintance with men of genius is rather repu-
"-table than satisfactory: genius is commonly
"attended with strong passions, & passion makes ☐ 172.
"people humourists."

may be further gratified to learn

or offensive to Mon

being now those of almost every reflecting person, may be adduced in favour of the correctness of his judgment, though he was not a man of reading.

Note at ◇ 637 Several men of genius from time to time attempted the solution of this memorable problem of the Longitude by horological mechanics; among whom we find Mons.r Huygens; Whitchinson, the theologian (known otherwise by the extravagance of his opinions;) Thevenot the traveller & librarian to the King of France; whose machine was further intended to show the declination of the needle. In Henry Sully, an ingenious young watchmaker in London, bid fair to succeed, but fell a martyr to his exertions. — Along with these distinguished aspirants, a host of ill informed projectors appeared (including, till now unknown, a certain northern Peer) insomuch that till John Harrison established the fact, the Discovery of the Longitude became a by word to denote any thing much desired, but impracticable of attainment. Hogarth has not forgotten to introduce it in the lunatic scene of the Rakes Progress; & the Rambler in his dream of the Garden of Hope, finishes a period with this current allusion.

from ++ 567 [redacted] The reader [redacted] to [redacted] that John Harrison had none of those eccentricities, often injurious to themselves, as well as annoying [redacted], that are frequently noticed in men of uncommon genius. The following official letter from the first Lord of the Admiralty, in 1736 bespeaks attention. The answer of Captain Proctor bears testimony to the respect & goodwill which the Officers of the ship [illegible] concerned both for the

interprize, & the Candidate's deportment among them.

From Sir Charles Wager to Captain Proctor.

Admiralty Office, 14. May, 1736

Sir

The Instrument which is put on board your Ship has been approved by all the Mathematicians in Town that have seen it (& few have not) to be the best that has been made for measuring time; how it will succeed at sea, you will partly be a judge; I have written to Sir John Norris, to desire him to send home the Instrument, & the Maker of it (who I think you have with you) by the first ship that comes. Perhaps Admiral Balchen may bring it, or a ship that comes to Chatham, if any do so, may be better. The Man is said by those who know him best, to be a very ingenious sober Man, & capable of finding out something more than he has already, if he can find encouragement. I desire therefore, That you will see the Man be used well, & that you will be as kind to him as you can:

I am, Sir, &c.

Captain Proctor's Answer.

Right honourable Sir

I am very much honoured with your's of the 14. in relation to the Instrument I carried out, & its Maker; The Instrument is placed in my cabin, for giving the Man all the advantage that is possible for making his observations, & I find him to be a very sober, a very industrious, & withal, a very modest Man, so that my good wishes cannot but attend him. But the

Minor Note at ◇ In the pamphlet ≡ quoted a certificate follows, by Mr. Roger Wills, Master of the Oxford man of war, dated in June the following year, who states, that when they made the land, on their return to England from Lisbon, by his reckoning & Those on board, it would have been the Start; but before they knew what land it was, Mr. Harrison told them, by ~~his~~ his Machine, it was the Lizard; which ≡ proved to be, thus showing the ship near a degree & a half more to the East than they had supposed.

from certain ⊞

splees

-mentary

Insert at △ At a Board, May 30th 1765, at which more good-humour than was usual prevailed, after the business of the meeting was over, a conversation ensued, which started these irregular items.

difficulty of measuring time Truly, where so many unequal shocks & motions stand in opposition to it, give me concern for the honest man, & whose merit he has attempted in impossibilities. But Sir, I will do him all the good, & give him all the help that is in my power: & acquaint him with your concern for his success, & your care that he shall be well treated: & be proved in every thing to show myself, Sir, &c. □

Centurion, at Spithead,
May 17th 1736.

We might remark on the sentiments of these distinguished Officers, for the surprising contrast they evince to the treatment the Candidate afterwards experienced [redacted] other quarters. That propriety of demeanour, which [redacted] brought in his favour, was not constrained, for under other times & circumstances, he might have reminded the observer of Dr. Johnson's remark on his friend, Sir Joshua [redacted] Reynolds — that he was "the most unwearable man he knew." By which he must one, [redacted] with whom, if you should quarrel, you would find it difficult to abuse: because there was nothing in his character to give scope to your [redacted]. The peculiarities of John Harrison were so few, & so trifling, that the Doctor might have extended the compli- [redacted] critique to him, had he been of his acquaintance.

Note at + 460 △ Whether his Lordship miscarried of this secretum meum mihi, or that the accouchement could only be effected somewhat in Vulcan's manner, of dazzling notoriety, by breaking a distaff, or a ladle, over

+ from the clover head, any more than it will from a clover foot, —— and we may observe that his Lordship ~~in his~~ while engrossed by such demonstrations seem, to have been te 00412

A remarkable erratum is prevalent now ~~Minor Poet [illegible] It is very different when in print, or writing, the word is substituted for another, of a quite different meaning, as is the case with an erratum at this time very prevalent~~ in the phrase, "to run the "gauntlet:" for gauntlet, a champions iron glove, has nothing to do with the real word, which is, Gauntlope —— signifying a military punishment, in which the offender, with his back bare, runs through the whole re-

[illegible] had been left to a jury of
matrons (sworn to secrecy) to decide. But we may safely
assume, contrary to the ancient legend, that Wisdom
would not have come forth fortified at all points, [illegible]
not
even if the operation had been performed by the honest
Smith who figures in D^r. Maskelyne's memorandums,
[illegible] if they can be found, referring to
the 23^d. of May 1766 — of which anon. But one one in-
stance here, to observe, that as clever men, like his Lord-
ship, are constitutionally accessible to [illegible] to ++525

Insert as text at ○ 474 In another passage he attributes to the
King the ignorance of saying Sir Isaac's for Socrates, as if
it could be supposed a moment of the collector of the valuable
Library, which his Successor afterwards presented to the Pub-
lic. The fact cannot be taken on his interested assertion, or
even admitting it, it would amount to no more than a lapsus
linguæ, to which all mankind are liable. The other day the
Author detected himself saying moleskin for military: but,
what then?

Note at △ 466 Sir John said, "he knew their minds", & that
it would not be in the least attended to. — That a propo-
sal for a manufactory of Timekeepers, by the inventor,
of incalculable
importance in that day, though not much wanted now, could
not be mentioned to these Commissioners of Longitude, seems
incredible, but is thus identified, & may be handed
over to the future historian, who is describing or the pro-
gress of the arts & sciences in the reign of George 3^d.

Minor Note at ○ The younger Mudge, before his father's death,

550 -giment, receiving a lash, with a switch from every soldier. It had its name from Gaunt, or Ghent, where it was first instituted, & a Dutch word, denoting to run. Hence to run the Gauntlope, conveys a clear & forcible idea; which is either by lost by ~~the~~ a mistake, ~~but probably originated~~ originated with some printer taking upon him to correct what he did not understand.

Insert at ◇ 150 guineas, which was the price, though too high for general use, did not remunerate M.r Mudge, who was much out of pocket by it.

Insert at ++ The refusal of a Clock on the computations, & the doubts respecting the Longitude of Jamaica, were not the only resources of the Lunar party, for D.r

02

not, Hyder Ali & his Son Tippoo Saib were usurpers of this Throne. After the death of the latter, the lawful heir was restored by the conquerors.

[redacted] attempted to establish a manufactury of them on his plan, but the concern was a losing one; John Harrison seemed fitted by Nature to overcome all obstacles not insurmountable, but unhappily for their country, the ignorance, or the enmity, of the ruling party at the Board, frustrated those objects.

[redacted] Note at 0464 Whatever may have been the improvements introduced in this method since Dr. Maskelyne published his pamphlet "~~The British Mariner's Guide~~," they do not apply here, as the question refers solely to his practice at the time of the inquiry for reputation & emolument between Nevil Maskelyne supported & encouraged by all the influence of a certain party at the Board of Longitude & John Harrison, who had to make his way by merit only, [redacted] in a hopeless [redacted] contention with interests adverse to his claim: and — to 00 406

Note at ϕ 269 In this view, the analogy between our own free institutions & some of the despotic sovereignties of the East is remarkable. In these the office of Prime Minister, or Grand Vizier, becomes hereditary: the nominal Monarch being kept a prisoner in his palace, is shewn to the people from time to time, on days of ceremony. If we mistake

Minor Note at Δ 55 ++[redacted] Maskelyne, in his answer to the young Mudge, takes occasion to say, that the reason of the trial to Jamaica being unsatisfactory, was that the Candidate had not given in a rate of going for the Timekeeper. But upon turning to the Instructions for the Voyage, it is found they are wholly silent on this point — leaving a very dishonour

Houses

April

Note at ◇ 461 There are instances in which the dif-
-ference between the real & the ostensible purpose of
some bill brought into either house of Parliament, is
enough to excite the amazement of those, out of doors, in
the secret, where such there are; but in the present
case, no liberal man, that could have traced his
Lordship's motives to their source, two years before,
& had scanned his genius for mechanics, would have
desired to be in his confidence. — The following brief
dialogue, which occurred in April, 1833, may place the
subject in a clearer point of view. — "Sir Robert to O

-rable inference: for if the previous sale of goods was indispen-
-sably necessary to the claim, it is incredible that it
was omitted in the instructions by accident, or if it
were, the injury in making him responsible for the
consequences of such omission can never be got rid
of.

There are instances in which both ~~Houses~~
of Parliament have been found completely imposed on, as is
illustrated by the following passage, which occurred in a debate,
24th. 1833. — "Sir Robert Inglis asked whether Government
"were acquainted with the nature of the Bill authorizing the
"establishment of the Glasgow Lottery, while that Bill was
"in progress through the House? — Lord Althorp replied,
"that his Majesty's Government had not the least idea that
"a Bill authorizing the establishment of a lottery had passed
"the Houses of Parliament until he was apprised of the exis-
-tence of the lottery itself. His attention was then drawn to
"the subject, & on looking at the Act, he found that no allu-
-sion was made to the lottery in its title, & that the word
"lottery itself occurred but once throughout the Act. It
"was, to say the truth, most skilfully drawn up, & the
"parties who concocted it had fully succeeded in rendering the
"House & the Government entirely ignorant of the real nature
"of the ~~Bill~~ Bill. — Sir Robert Peel: If the lottery
"is not yet drawn, the Bill may be repealed [it is
"drawn]. Well then, all I can say is, that those who
"were parties to the transaction ought to be subjected
"to public punishment."

The measure which the President of the Royal
Society was too successful in procuring, not to explain, but to

subvert the original Act, was not of this description, though the imposition was as complete, for it did not require the sharp wits of those concerned in the Glasgow business, but belonged to a more common class of enactments —— to those bills which pass both Houses pro forma; either because they are prepared by public functionaries, honourable ones, whose averment, as to the utility of the step, it might seem [illegible] with unnecessary & invidious to dispute; or the bill was to rectify some technical informalities, or certain local particulars, interesting only to A, B, C & D, or their neighbours, whom nobody appeared to oppose —— What could be thought of the application, had it been unknown [illegible] (we are justified in reiterating it) that the Commissioners themselves had uniformly interpreted the 12th of Queen Anne as the Claimant did. So that after he had persevered forty years on the basis of this conformity, rendered more unequivocal by advances of the public money, they could not measure back their steps without assuming the attitude of a swindler towards so singular a duke, as he might be reputed. The History of the Transactions shews that this unparalleled case should be dated from January 16th 1765, when a great coin Man first took his seat at the Board, surcharged with irresistible animosity towards the Claimant, for having been defeated in enforcing his eccentric resolves under the separate Commission. He was now enabled to embody those resolutions, six in number, as far as possible, in the clauses of his bill —— which Parliament never knew, nor ever the Board, we conjecture, for no attention was paid to the proceedings of that Commission after its failure. Hence a northern dictatorial whose forte

553

That 920 ft

was low cunning, notwithstanding his laborious descent, could effect a counterpart of the Glasgow lottery, though much deficient in the austerity attributed to the parties concerned in [redacted] imposition. To aggravate pretences [redacted] The fallacy of which there was no one to detect, the consideration is very material, [redacted] That there was a party at the Board of Longitude directly opposed to the success of the Mechanics: & even Lord Morton, [redacted], had given sufficient indications of disbelief, though it was not by the Lunar method. — Exclusive of a proceeding which would have blown up the whole plan of this scientific Commissioner had it transpired, a question of peculiar magnitude arises out of the case of John Harrison. For if, without reflecting that he had his rights as well as the community — if, without examination, or hearing counsel in his behalf, the 12. of Queen Anne was rendered wholly null & unavailable, by an enactment of such an indefinite construction that it bore whatever his personal enemies might chuse to affix to it, the future trials of his Timekeepers being neither limited in number, nor duration, nor in the degree of exactness required, was not the Legislature exceeding its own powers? as it would do, were it to pass an Act depriving some individual [redacted] of his estate; or mulcting him in a sum of money, without assigning treason, rebellion, or the like causes of legal forfeiture?

Minor Note at □ 532 The Author remembers reading in the Debates, many years ago, that while a private bill

from ◇ 469 After the

(which becomes of no small curiosity & interest, with reference to the object of these pages.) It after goes into

& of his repeated applications for

was passing through its final stages in this way, a gen-
-tleman in the House cautioned them against too
much precipitation, & to enforce his suggestion, related
that one day, on the third reading of a bill of this descrip
-tion, an honourable Member happened to observe that a
man in the gallery changed countenance & was evidently
much ~~a~~ alarmed at their proceedings: this inducing him
to go round & question the person, he found by his statement,
that was that bill to receive the royal assent, it would ex
-tremely affect his interest, if it did not entirely ruin him.
That he had come from the country, but could only wit-
-ness what was going on without knowing how to take
any step in his own behalf. The House being apprized of
this, it led to an investigation of particulars, & to the in-
-troduction of a clause effectually to guard against the
injury pointed out: which but for the casual inci-
-dent mentioned would soon have passed into a law.

~~to resolve at ++ the, & the preceding extract from~~
~~a from a curious Journal or Narrative, which, after the~~
death of the younger Harrison (William) it was discovered
That he & his Father had kept a Journal, or narrative, of their transactions with
the Commissioners of Longitude & others: ~~[illegible]~~
detail where the minutes of the Board supply only a meagre
outline of what passed, & what ~~[illegible]~~ is more important, brings
us acquainted with particulars of which there is ~~[illegible]~~ but a gar-
-bled account, or which there might be good reasons for exclud-
-ing altogether from ~~[illegible]~~ official reports ~~[illegible]~~ — such as the refusal of a
check on the computations after the return from Jamaica;
~~[illegible]~~ the loss of the successful Timekeeper, to make others

555–6–7

their minutes

Insert at ◻ —— that it might be seen their failure (in this point of view) was not attributable to their own neglect, but arose from causes they could not control,

(including D^r. Bradley) had insured him suitable

indefinitely (which was soon verified by the refusal of a check on the computations, after the [redacted] return from Jamaica)

by, which, although of the highest importance to the understanding of his case, do not, with one exception, appear on [illegible]. — As it is very unusual for persons situated in life as these Journalists were, to engage in a trouble more appropriate to men of education & leisure, it may be concluded they had cogent reasons for commencing this account of their proceedings when brought into contact with a public Board, objectively constituted, as was the commission of Longitude. These they have distinctly stated, & it appears that [illegible] though the recommendations the Candidate brought with him from the most eminent scientific men [illegible] encouragement in the long interval while he was prosecuting his labours, till he was enabled to state himself prepared for the trial prescribed; yet when the success of the Timekeeper was anticipated, & probably within the nearest limits of the fact, such unequivocal symptoms of jealousy were apparent in the Professors from Oxford & Cambridge, at seeing the Mechanics carry off such a Laurel, to the prejudice of Men of Science, as led the Father & Son to believe that, whatever might be the merits of the Invention, pretexts would never be wanting to procrastinate the payment of the reward [illegible]. For the satisfaction therefore of their Descendants, & the Friends of the family, they adopted the practice of committing to paper, on their return home, what had passed between them & the commissioners, or other persons connected with these proceedings. The Manuscript, which is [illegible] in folio, & leaving

113 pages

with an order from Lord Anson, respecting the intended trial, & concludes in May 1766, with the delivering up of the three Machines, considered by the Candidate as "the first steps "towards this long desired Invention."

Note at ☐ He was Father of W. Williams, the Chamber Counsel, well known by various con- -tributions on jurisprudence, which were well received by the profession.

Lords"; for he regarded conscientious objections, the wording of about, an oath, no more than his Boatswain would have done;
John Harrison & his Son, which was not known to be in ex- -istence when it, discovered among their ma- -thematical books,

— Taken altogether this Narrative becomes an epitome of the difficulties & discouragements which a man of uncommon genius, but born under an adverse planet, may have to contend with; not so much in the specimens he gives of his talents as

[redacted], commences in March 1761, [redacted]. It is not in the hand writing of either of the Harrison's, except a few verbal corrections by the Son, & from circumstances, the Author concludes the present copy to have been written out from a rough one, or from notes afterwards thrown away, by Walter Williams, an attorney, an [redacted] intimate friend of William Harrison; who latterly became Secretary to the Apothecaries Company, & as such had apartments at Bear Hall, in Blackfriars. It sometimes offends against grammar, & now & then the construction of the sentences is not consonant to the intended meaning.— A consideration of some interest, is the traits occasionally developed in the distinguished characters of that time: these sometimes do not square with history, or with the biography of the parties, which is particularly the case with Lord Anson, & Mr. Grenville. The Earl of Egmont reminds us of Dr. Doe's "Sarpedon" & Dr. Bradley, [redacted], was avowedly a judge in his own cause. We may add, that the Narrative of [redacted] was to him, in his limited sphere, what the diaries of Lord Melcombe Regis & the Earl of Waldegrave were to those Noblemen in the political world: but the burden of his theme was of far more importance to mankind than the turmoil & party politics, when they wrote, which is daily becoming of less interest, & a dull affair to trace. [redacted]

Pamphlet × 1818 The current reason assigned for the non payment of the reward after the trial to Jamaica, which had proved so successful, was that the Longitude of that Island was not sufficiently known. This was not disavowed at

of that envy, the offspring of mediocrity, which John Harrison fully experienced from men whose names, with scarcely an exception, are no where to be found but on their college rolls, or parish registers. Had not George 3d with more than ~~[illegible]~~-sideration & consistency than may be found in the mathematical chairs at Oxford or Cambridge, ~~[illegible]~~ taken by the hand the first discoverer of the Longitude at sea, we might have been left to apostrophize this enterprising man in the language of Johnson, on a far different occasion ——

++

Mr James Short F. R. S. & Vice (1761) a Member of the Council.

from ++

around his tomb let art & genius weep,
But hear his fate, ye blockheads, hear & sleep.

The Preface ends here. Insert on a blank leaf in article at 479

head quarters to Δ 5 5 2 although, if admitted, it compromised the integrity of those who directed proceedings with a knowledge of that uncertainty, & yet construed it as a necessity of his Axiom. But the Longitude of Jamaica had been correctly determined by a transit of Mercury on October 25th. 1743, given in the Philosophical Transactions which having been communicated to Lord Anson, was laid before the Mathematical Commissioners above a month previous to the trial: but by them appears to have been disregarded; ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ a reason for which slightly token the Candidates Journal indirectly discloses. that the paper alluded to, or the transit, was by ~~Mr. Short the optician~~ who, from certain items which we omit, was personally unacceptable to the Lunar party. (on this abridgment) But the collision leaves no more respect for what the Professors kept out of sight, than we are wont to have for the conferences of the whispering Kings of Brentford. We could not, however, have anticipated such a scene of shifting & Equivocation as the following, ~~[illegible]~~ — on August 9th. 1763: before the voyage to Barbados. — "~~Gilliam~~ Mr. Harrison found that Mr. Bliss had proposed the trial should not be to Jamaica, but to some other Island. ~~He Mr. Harrison then~~ desired, if the Board pleased, it might be to Antigua: To which Mr. Bliss ~~[illegible]~~ made answer, 'No Sir, the Longitude of Antigua is also known'. — By this ~~Gilliam~~ Mr. Harrison found that he was not to go to Jamaica because the Longitude was known: & ~~[illegible]~~ therefore said to ~~Professor~~ Mr. Bliss — Pray how long has the Longitude of Jamaica been known? ~~[illegible]~~

55 G continued/

to which Mr. Pipe answered
Then said; My

X Minor Note From the minutes of the Board, it may be inferred that this Island was finally decided on to accomodate Dr. Maskelyne, who objected to the others on account of his health.

he

lighted

had

a long time. William Harrison ~~[illegible]~~ "~~[illegible]~~ fate is very hard; that I must not go to a place, because you say the Longitude of it is known; whereas a little time ago you would not give me the reward because, you said, the Longitude of that place was not known. — It was at last agreed that he should go to Barbadoes."

It would be doing injustice to the rest of the Board, to suppose they could deliberately sanction such gross prevarication & imbecile unfitness for what he appeared to direct; but it was evidently their duty to ~~[illegible]~~ have interfered, if they were not parties to the misconduct of their interlocutor, ~~[illegible]~~ Nathaniel Bliss, M.A. Astronomer Royal — who seems to have been a weak man, who had filled the Sidereal chair, & also that of Geometry, at Oxford. Is that the Journal quoted ~~[illegible]~~ from unintentionally aids the strictures of D^r. Knox, who, had he ~~[illegible]~~ on ~~[illegible]~~ This ornament to the University, might have mixed more wormwood with his unpalatable account of what was passing in those foundations on Cam & Isis.

The idea, that he was a wit, wholly misled those who expected to find his conversation seasoned with turns of humour. Of two friends of the Author who dined in his company; one by accident, & the other in a party; the first said, that if he had not previously known who he was, he should have taken him for a cheesemonger: while the brightest saying the other could quote, bordered on blasphemy, without being in the least obliterating. — One of the dishes was stewed eels,

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case been reversed, & had he

effontery enough

found the utility of it, apart from the expense. Note ends here

For

which Peter Pindar relished so well, as to say, that "if he had been consulted at the creation, he would have had all other fish cells."

Pamph. p. 11 Could not Dr. Maskelyne himself, had he had no interest in the particulars, have thought what passed at Barbadoes incompatible with his superintendence of the trial? — a remark which may be extended further by those who recollect that in Parliament any member is expected to withdraw from a question involving his own private concerns: yet John Harrison never found the benefit of this decorous sentiment at the Board of Longitude, where his personal enemies instead of abstaining themselves, had to take the lead against him.

Note at ++ 453 The Timekeepers could not be made for less on the model of the successful one; Mr. Kendal's contract was for £450; this cost may be conceived to have mostly arisen from the extensive use of jewellery, whereby to reduce the friction as much as possible, &, as the Inventor said, "to give them a durability for ages." He was not original in this method, but he

While his Lordship was wholly intent on his own purposes, he had not the sagacity to avoid subserving the views of others. Nothing could be more acceptable to that party at the Board whose schemes were inimical to the Mechanics than the turn given by this paralizing uncertainty to the final payment of the reward. If it could be postponed sine die, if they prospered themselves not satisfied with the result of any trial; like that, to instance, which gave occasion for these Memoirs.

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from ◇ 346 The liberality of this provision was commendable, but the policy of it may much be ques[tioned] for [illegible] we should

would never be wanting among men who evinced the selfish spirit shown in these Memoirs.

observe, that the Professors from Cam & Sis were supposed to have been long influenced by an idea, that the reward once paid, their services would be no longer required ——— no trifling consideration withal: for they had £1 per day, for each Board of Longitude they attended. So it is expected, but wants the particular explanation. However contrived, it is fair enough to contend that, if they were not bad economists, they could pocket a few guineas by this jaunt to town; visit their clerical & lay friends exclusively; perambulate the repositories of arts & science, see Garrick & other wonderments; from whence a summons now & then to attend this Commission was not likely to be overlooked among the advantages of a mathematical chair: and public motives for rendering the troubles of one of those homines centenarii who do honour to their age & country inceptive & endless could with the least, without having recourse to the opinion of Jupiter. However easy to determine the point

from 394 ——— Not long after the precd affair Dr. Maskelyne published a very large quarto of "Tables of Refraction & Parallax", highly creditable to his industry & professional researches, but equally a proof of his infatuation, in expecting masters of merchantmen, as well as the gentlemen of the navy, to conform to such complicated rules for finding the situation of their ship. to Δ 634 people who often die from before the mast, seldom gratified to avail themselves of the Astronomers tables in their behalf — if their time & the uncommon trouble of the ship would allow of it. However, waiving this, we remem

this nobleman, as deficient in penetrating the views of others, as he was in concealing his own,

for the opinion of an experienced naval Officer; which was that the Tables might be of some use in long voyages, but not in short ones, because the voyage would be finished before the observations would.

In the preface of his reply to Mr. Mudge the Doctor warmly attacks a certain German Professor Jack, for what? — for sacrificing Astronomy to Timekeepers! — There it is, the learned & the ignorant equally illustrate the observation, how much easier it is to detect the mote in your neighbour's eye than to feel the beam in your own. For what was the main drift of the trial concerted between the Sardonic confederates (Lord Morton & himself) but to sacrifice Timekeepers to Astronomy? — & that too in contravention of the notorious fact, that the Astronomers had been completely beaten at sea. To decide that the Mechanics were entitled to a secondary & subordinate place only, after such unanswerable evidence that they had a right to the first distinction, directly tended to make the authority of the Board (& his own) no more respected among seafaring men than the judgment of a mountebank would be. And this "sacrifice of Timekeepers to Astronomy" would not unsettle the belief of those who value an ounce of experience more than a hundredweight of hypothetical demonstrations. stop here

But while his Lordship, from lack of discernment, fiercely favoured the opposition of the Lunar party, justice to the Mechanicians, nothing appears to indicate he was willing they should share the reward; so that he might be said to assimilate himself too much with the snappish cur in the manger.

long a period

case, enquiring into its authenticity

by the Elector of Hanover; he could, by the stamp of his booted foot, order matters instantly as he deemed fitting. In Germany George 3d. could have imitated his neighbour, but in England he may be said to have toiled through the obstacles in the way to the redeeming of his pledge; & he was signal treated by the Commissioners, in November 1772, as has been seen, & as they have themselves recorded. His virtue was its own reward, except the recording Angel transmitted it to the Eternal Throne: while, on the contrary, the eclat of the Miller's affair soon

from ♯ 311 The case of this Miller & that of our Mechanician were much the same in principle, though different in detail: for after the opinion of the Commissioners had flowed in the same channel with his so [illegible], after they had drawn from him the labour of all the prime of his life, they had no more right to dictate further trials, unlimited in number, duration & exactness, than the Landlord had to turn the course of the stream by which the Miller was to get his bread. — The desire of doing justice to an injured subject may be divided between these potentates, but how great is the disparity seen in what cost Frederic no further trouble than the perusal of the sufferer's [illegible], & the affixing of his signature to an order consequent; & the surprising self constraint by which George 3., to redeem his pledge, attended fourteen weeks at the meridian hour; and afterwards condescended, every Tuesday, to examine & give an opinion on the several written or printed tracts which the junior Harrison laid before him, to know his advice, pending the application to Parliament. The trouble, to the descendant of Albert the Achilles was not a ten-thousandth part of that incurred [illegible] passed the frontiers of Frederic's domains; & such respectable natives of Prussia as happened to be in London, or its vicinity, were convened by advertisement to celebrate this Triumph of justice with a convivial dinner. But with the exception of the venerable Mechanician, his friends, & dependents, it does not appear that any set of Englishmen, Fellows of the Royal Society, or others, ever drew a cork to honour the love of justice, the humanity, the singular patience & perseverance of their Sovereign. A prophet is without

~~Executed~~ execrable matter

Minor Note at X While we are writing, the Bishop of London, on the introduction of a bill to legalize the affirmation of Quakers, animadverts on the absurd & execrable use of oaths on trifling occasions, & his Lordship instanced those in the Excise Customs.

Note at ◇ 533

honour in his own country, [redacted] a beneficent King is no here: even though his merit shines with [redacted], when set off against that of the most celebrated of his contemporaries.

[redacted] Jonas Hanway in his "Defects of Police" commented on the careless & unimpressive manner attendant on the sacred obligation of an oath in our courts of justice &c. which when they are so frequently, administered, has the undeniable obvious effect of rendering them acts of form & ceremony, in the apprehension of the multitude; & he pointed out the improvement that would accrue from adopting the example of the courts in Scotland, where the sanctity of this test obtains due observance. What then would this genuine moralist have said, had he seen a Scotch Nobleman in England, & —— in London, crowding oaths into a case in which they were for the most part irrelevant; as in questions connected with the theory & practice of mechanics a person can often swear to no more than the [redacted] best of his belief.? & this swearing process could elicit nothing but the meanness of its projector, who has left it to be supposed, had he engaged to explain his own secret "which no workman could hit on" that no dependance could be placed on his asseveration further than his Bible oath would bear him out.

This fact shows that the officious ignorance of the Manager would have spoiled every thing he intermeddled with, had not the better knowledge of those engaged in the affair corrected this Tessy; viz.

This decision of the Committee virtually rescinded the vote of the Commissioners; who, on no apparent [redacted] ground but

564 continued)

beig 1760, which

(on the Irish establishment) for the lives of himself & the Duchess which was enjoyed 40 years.

the computations which he had been refused to name a Clerk
or & was denied [redacted] to inspect, decided that the Watch
had not kept time within the Act on the Trial to Jamaica.
But whatever might be the sentiment of the House on the in-
justice he had experienced, it was followed by no practical
result in his behalf: the reason — the why & wherefore of an
incongruity so anomalous in a country & under a constitution
by the theory of which the rights of all are respected alike, was never
explicable.

This was impressed on the Writer
by the case of a Robberman, nearly of the same Date, [redacted]
is a remarkable set off to that of John Harrison. —
— The Duke of Athol possessed the royalty of the Isle of Man,
with the rights privileges & immunities annexed thereto. These
it became expedient that Government should purchase, for
the better preservation of the revenue. His Grace was treat-
ed with accordingly; & by a liberal agreement received £
70,000; which was at the extraordinary rate of 140 years pur-
chase: to which was added a pension of £2,000 [redacted]
[redacted]. — In 1804, the revenue
of the Island having much improved in the interval, the
Inheritor of this peerage complained of the serious loss
& injury to the family, by the transfer above 40 years
before! — On the part of Government it was alleged
that this improvement was owing to the greater vigi-
lance they were enabled to exert by their cruizers &c.
& therefore was not to have been expected, had the manage-
ment continued in private hands — an explanation
which seems satisfactory enough. But, though it would
be difficult to say that any contractor for naval or military

stores might not on such a precedent claim com-
pensation for a calculated loss 20 or 30 years after
signing the articles◇, his Grace, who must have reck-
oned accurately on his resources, goes down to Parlia-
ment, & by that influence which in all countries,
whatever may be their form of Government attends
on high rank & great possessions ⛀ procures to the Duke-
dom of Athol a grant of £3,500 per annum, in perpetuity to re-
place the pension extinct.

The old observation, that it is much easier for
a rich man to obtain an addition to his wealth, than for a
poor one to procure what is necessary to his existence, comes
home with uncommon force to the case of this Nobleman○, con-
trasted with that of the Client of a special pleader ——
George the good.. And though not applicable to the letter,
it recals the spirit of the sentiment in that verse, often quo-
ted, from The Wisdom of the Son of Sirach "When a rich
" man speaketh, every man holdeth his tongue, & look,
" what he saith, they extol it to the clouds: but if the
" poor man speak, they say, what fellow is this? & if he
" stumble, they will help to overthrow him."

Minor note at ○ No reference was intended to financial poli-
tics: neither is the Author acquainted directly, or indirectly,
with any member of the noble family alluded to, or with their con-
nexions

Minor Note at ◇ At this time, the Author was not aware that in the debate on the grant, one of the speakers (Sir John Miller) indignantly opposed it on the same ground; for he "wished the house joy of what they were going to do. Henceforth they would have "business enough upon their hands in remunerating "every contractor who had made a bad bargain."

Wood History of Man
the 9th of
pag. 313.